

Mary M. Meyer

From: Karla Cooper [cooperkarla@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2012 2:48 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: City Council Position
Attachments: Karla J. Cooper curriculum vitae 2012.doc

To Whom It May Concern:

I am attaching a copy of my curriculum vitae/resume to express my interest in the position with the City Council of Lincoln. If you have further need of more information, feel free to contact me via email at cooperkarla@yahoo.com or by phone: 573-344-7198 (cell); 402-826-6747 (office).

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karla J. Cooper

Karla J. Cooper

2424 T. Street
Lincoln, NE 68503
573-344-7198

EDUCATION:

Currently pursuing PhD in Sociology University of Nebraska

Master of Divinity 2004

Master of Science 1994-96

Eden Theological Seminary

Major: Public Administration (a.b.d)

Southeast Missouri State University

Bachelor of Arts Degree 1991

Southeast Missouri State University

Major: Mass Comm./Media Studies

Minor: English

Collegiate Activities: National Dean's Honor List 1991

Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities 1990

Intern--United States Department of State--USAID, Washington, D.C. 1989

Board of Regents Appointee to Presidential Search Committee 1989, 1995

Proctor and Gamble Minority Student Excellence Award 1989

Southeast Missouri State Task Force for Ethnic Diversity 1989

Southeast Missouri State Judicial Review Committee 1989-90

Southeast Missouri State Outstanding Student Leader 1990-91

Convener/organized the Presidential Ambassadors program 1990-91

Chartered the National Pan-Hellenic Council at Southeast 1990

Reorganized the Association of Black Collegians 1988-1990

Teaching and Research Interest

Graduate Courses through Doane College--Crete, Nebraska

Meeting the Needs of At-Risk Students

Communication in a Global Environment

Critical Issues in Education

Undergraduate/Community Courses

Sociology of Religion: Ever Wonder About God, Religion and Public Policy—Doane College

Beyond Entertainment: Theology of Film—Doane College

Understanding Islam

Comparative Religion

New Testament Foundations—Doane College

The Gospel of John

Child, Family and Community—Doane College

Faith Seeking Understanding –Doane College

Intercultural Communication –Doane College, Lincoln

Honors Seminar—Doane College

A Namaste Experience: Interterm in India –Chennai, India via Doane College

Alternative Spring Break advisor

Service Learning Co-curricular Coordinator

Research Interest/Publications

"When Race, Gender and Orientation Meet" co-authored with Dr. Joretta Marshall for Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner and Teresa E. Snorton's *Volume IV: Women out of Order: Risking Change and Creating Care in a Multicultural World*, Fortress 2009

When Blacks Were Green by Karla J. Cooper, 2008, Amanuet Press Lincoln, NE

“What Does it Mean to Be Human?” article published in *Prairie Fire Newspaper* March 2008

Prayer published for the 9th Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

“Giving to God to Get From God”: *Hegemony in the Ecclesia* (research paper written 2007)

“A Plea for Black Liberation and Womanist Theologians to Create a New Hermeneutic for Dalit Christians in India” (research paper written 2004 and used by the A.M.E. Church for the work in India)

Public Speaking Experience/Conference Presentations:

- Hastings College Black History Month speaker February 2012
- “Embodying Justice: Privilege, Power & Possibility” American Association Pastoral Counselors Annual Conference 2011, Phoenix, Arizona
- India 2010 Historic Annual Conference
- Midwest Regional Conference Prince Hall Masons 2010
- Invocation for NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet 2010
- Baccalaureate Speaker Kennett High School 2009
- Invocation for Faith Leaders Press Conference 2009
- Invocation for Mayor’s Interfaith Prayer Breakfast 2009
- Hastings College 2009 Dr. Martin Luther King speaker
- Hastings College Women’s History Month Speaker 2008
- Women’s Global Initiative Ecological Day of Justice 2008 Los Angeles
- Eden Theological Seminary Spring Convocation Panelist 2008
- Midwest Consortium on Service Learning in Higher Education 2007
- Hastings College Black History Month speaker 2007
- Faith Formation and Healing Mission Maseru, Lesotho 2006
- Gurukul Theological Seminary, Chennai India; United Theological Center, Bangalore, India; Tamilnadu Theological Seminary, Tamilnadu, India 2003
- Nebraska Statewide Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration speaker 2005
- Doane College presentations on multiculturalism, at-risk students and spirituality
- Missouri Statewide AmeriCorps Kickoff keynote speaker
- Central Star O.E.S. Community Banquet keynote speaker
- William Woods University Keynote speaker MLK Celebration 1997
- Cape Girardeau Community Banquet keynote speaker 1996
- Student At-Risk Conference workshop presenter 1995
- SEMO Partners for Community Service keynote speaker 1994, 1995
- Stoddard County Heart Health Coalition keynote speaker 1994
- Paducah/McCracken County Small Business Center keynote speaker 1994
- Quin State Economic Development Conference workshop presenter ‘94
- Girls Are Great Conference for Girls Scouts keynote speaker 1994
- Rotary Club 1994, 1995, 1996
- Lions Club 1994, 1996
- Governor’s Conference co-presenter 1993
- Various programs/celebrations at Southeast Missouri State University and throughout the region

Elected/Appointed Offices:

Blue Valley Community Action Agency Board of Directors 2012-15

Mary Reimpa Ross Board of Directors 2012-15

Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays--PFLAG Board of Directors 2010 to present
Lincoln Commission on Human Rights (mayoral appointment 2006-11)

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. National Executive Board member, Director of the Central Region

Governor’s Delegation to the President’s Summit for America’s Future

President’s Commission on Minority Student Affairs, Southeast Missouri State University

Missouri Community Services Commissioner 1993-2001 (Governor Carnahan's appointment)
Governor's Task Force on Prescription Drugs (Governor Bob Holder)
Delta Area Economic Opportunity Corporation Board (regional city government appointment)
Greater Missouri Focus On Leadership Board of Directors (statewide--Missouri Foundation of Women's Resources). Graduate of the 1996 class
Board of Regents Appointee to Presidential Search Committee Southeast Missouri State
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. State coordinator/regional leadership team

Community Service/Involvement:

Homestead Council Girl Scouts Board of Directors 2005-08
Fresh Start Board of Directors Lincoln, Nebraska 2004-05
Kennett Caring Council 1993-2001
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Central Star Chapter O.E.S.
Kids Beat 1995-96
Kennett Community 2000
Girl Scout USA Lifetime Member
Brownie Leader 1993-1995
Minority Health Advisory Coalition
Dunklin Co. Heart Health Coalition 91-92
Kennett Pool Committee 1995
PASSAGES—founder, a rite of passage program 1997 to present
Organized the annual: Help Somebody, Every American Can Make A Difference Community Awards Gala

Awards

Zenon C.R. Hansen Leadership Award 2009-10 Doane College
Women's Global Initiative Ecological Day of Justice Award in Toronto, Canada 2009 noted as the 1st black woman to write a book on ecological justice/environmental issues
Women In Ministry Jarena Lee Award Midwest Annual Conference 2008

Denominational Affiliations

Ordained Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church
Served Bethel AME in Caruthersville, Missouri 2000-01
Served Bethel AME in Wellston, Missouri 2001-2003
Quinn Chapel AME in Lincoln, NE 2003 to present
Serve on the Board of Examiners for ministerial candidates of the A.M.E. Church
Dual Standing with the United Church of Christ Nebraska Conference
Fifth District Women In Ministry Financial Secretary 2001 to 2008
Connectional Women In Ministry Financial Secretary 2008 to 2009
Midwest Conference Board of Examiners

Prior to Ordination Local Church Experience:

Steward at St. John AME Church in Kennett
YPD Director at St. John AME Church in Kennett
Christian Education Department Adult Sunday School teacher
Vacation Bible School coordinator
Actively involved in Northside Missionary Baptist Church
Ministerial Alliance

EMPLOYMENT

Grant Writer/Not-for-profit Organization Consultant

African Methodist Episcopal Church Pastor	August 2000 to present
Chaplain & Coordinator of Service Programs Doane College	August 2006 to present
Adjunct Professor Doane College	January 2005 to present
Executive Director Dunklin County Caring Communities	July 1998 to August 2000 Kennett, MO
Responsibilities: Organized county-wide systems reform initiative and community partnership to better serve children and families in Dunklin County. Budget was initially \$40,000 within two years was over \$500,000 through various grants and capital Campaigns. Still operational to date.	
Field Manager (part-time) Cotton Boll Area Girl Scout Council Responsibilities: Recruitment of volunteers especially minorities. Developed at-risk camping experience. Also wrote tax credit application to assist in building new corporate office	
Community Liaison Kennett School District #39	July 1994 to July 1998 Kennett, MO
Responsibilities: Developed two-county Alternative School wrote and received Missouri Department of Education's Caring Communities Incentive Grant to pilot project--D.R.E.A.M.E.R.S. Alternative Learning Center. Developed two-county juvenile diversion program for the 34th and 35th Judicial Circuit Developed business/community partnerships with Adopt-A-School/Partners in Education Developed two-county mentoring program Big Brothers Big Sisters of America Managed community services with AmeriCorps program Supervised Family, School, Community Team. Coordinated efforts between the Kennett Public Schools and Community Coordinated Safe & Drug-Free Schools and secured state grant for activities/programs	
Teen SPIRALS Coordinator Project SPIRALS	1992-1994 Hayti, MO 63857
Responsibilities: Counseled at-risk, pregnant/parenting teens who were economically and educationally disadvantaged. Taught Job Training/Life-skills under the Federal Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) initiative. Received national recognition through the Ford Foundation 1993 Innovations Award at Harvard University's JFK School of Government Governor's Award winner 1993	
Copywriter/Sales Executive KBOA/KTMO Radio	1992-1994 Kennett, MO
Responsibilities: Wrote and produced commercials for a county music market. Co-hosted weekly talk show. Sold advertisements	